

1 **51511/DJB/M743**

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 1. A data card reader for reading data from a data card
possessing an integrated circuit and/or a magnetic stripe,
comprising:

 guiding walls that form a channel and that are connected
to a receiver having an interior surface;

10 a magnetic reading head mounted on one of the guiding
walls;

 electrical contacts located on the interior surface of
the receiver; and

 a latch extending at least partially across the channel
15 formed by the guiding walls.

 2. The data card reader of claim 1, further comprising:
a chassis cavity;

 wherein the latch is partially located inside the chassis
20 cavity and includes a spring loaded slider.

 3. The data card reader of claim 2, further comprising:
a motor connected to the latch; and

 wherein the position of the latch is controlled using the
25 motor.

 4. The data card reader of claim 1, wherein the latch
is pivotally mounted.

30 5. The data card reader of claim 4, further comprising:
a motor connected to the latch; and

 wherein the latch position is controlled using the motor.

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6. The data card reader of claim 1, wherein:

5 the data card cannot move through the channel past the
latch, when the latch extends at least partially across the
channel; and

 the latch is capable of moving so that a data card can
pass through the channel.

10 7. A data card reader for reading data from a data card
possessing an integrated circuit and/or a magnetic stripe,
comprising:

 guiding walls that form a channel and that are connected
to a receiver having an interior surface;

15 a magnetic reading head mounted on one of the guiding
walls;

 electrical contacts located on the interior surface of
the receiver;

20 wherein the receiver comprises a base, a rear wall and
side walls;

 wherein the side walls form an entrance to the receiver;

 wherein at least one of the base, rear wall or a side
wall is located to have a surface that contacts the card when
it is located within the receiver; and

25 wherein friction between the surface in contact with the
card resists removal of the card from the receiver.

8. The data card reader of claim 7, wherein the
receiver further comprises a top wall.

30 9. The data card reader of claim 7, wherein the side
walls are also configured to form an opening in the top of the
receiver.

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10. The data card reader of claim 9, wherein:
5 the interior surface of the receiver is configured to
contact the surface of the data card, when the data card is
within the receiver; and

friction between the interior surface and the data card
resists removal of the data card from the opening in the top
10 of the receiver.

11. The data card reader of claim 7, wherein an interior
surface of the receiver contains compressible features.

12. A data card reader for reading data from a data card
15 possessing an integrated circuit and/or a magnetic stripe,
comprising:

guiding walls that form a channel and that are connected
to a receiver having an interior surface;

20 a magnetic reading head mounted on one of the guiding
walls;

electrical contacts located on the interior surface of
the receiver; and

25 at least one clip that engages a data card inserted into
the receiver;

wherein friction between the clip and the data card
resists removal of the data card from the receiver.

13. A data card reader for reading data from a data card
30 possessing an integrated circuit and/or a magnetic stripe,
comprising:

guiding walls that form a channel and that are connected
to a receiver having an interior surface;

35 a magnetic reading head mounted on one of the guiding
walls;

electrical contacts located on the interior surface of
the receiver;

5 wherein the receiver comprises:

 a base;

 side walls; and

 a roller mounted in a side wall of the receiver;

 wherein the side walls form an entrance to the
10 receiver and an opening in the top of the receiver;

 wherein the roller is configured to rotate as the
data card is inserted into the receiver through the receiver
entrance; and

 wherein friction between the surface of the roller
15 and the data card resists removal of the data card from the
opening in the top of the receiver.

14. The data card reader of claim 13, wherein the roller
is non-axisymmetrical.

20 15. A data card reader for reading data from a data card
possessing an integrated circuit and/or a magnetic stripe,
comprising:

 guiding walls that form a channel and that are connected
25 to a receiver having an interior surface;

 a magnetic reading head mounted on one of the guiding
walls;

 electrical contacts located on the interior surface of
the receiver;

30 wherein the receiver comprises:

 at least two side walls;

 a rotating wedge mounted in one of the side walls;

and

 a card guide located on the opposite side wall;

wherein the rotating wedge occupies a first position
prior to entry of a data card into the receiver;

5 wherein inserting a data card into the receiver when
the rotating wedge is in the first position, causes the
rotating wedge to rotate to a second position;

 wherein attempting to remove a data card from the
receiver when the rotating wedge is in the second position
10 causes the rotating wedge to force the data card against the
card guide in a manner that resists the removal of the data
card.

16. The data card reader of claim 15, wherein the
15 pivoting wedge comprises a spring loaded wheel housed within a
ramped cavity in a side wall of the receiver.

17. The data card reader of claim 15, wherein the
pivoting wedge comprises a wedge arm pivotally mounted within
20 a cavity in one of the side walls of the receiver.

18. A data card reader for reading data from a data card
possessing an integrated circuit and/or a magnetic stripe,
comprising:

25 guiding walls that form a channel and that are connected
to a receiver an interior surface;

 a magnetic reading head mounted on one of the guiding
walls;

 electrical contacts located on the interior surface of
30 the receiver; and

 a sensor configured to detect movement of a card inserted
into the receiver.

19. The data card reader of claim 18, wherein the sensor
35 is configured to detect movement in excess of 50 mils.

5 20. The data card reader of claim 18, wherein the sensor
is configured to detect movement in excess of 20 mils.

 21. The data card reader of claim 18, wherein the sensor
is configured to detect movement in excess of 10 mils.

10 22. A data card reader for reading data from magnetic
stripes located on data cards and from integrated circuits
located on data cards, comprising:

 means for guiding the magnetic stripe on the data card
past a magnetic reading head; and

15 receiving means for receiving the data card from the
guiding means;

 communicating means for communicating with the integrated
circuit located on the data card; and

20 means for resisting removal of the data card from the
receiver.

 23. A method of reading data from a data card including
a magnetic stripe and/or an integrated circuit having a set of
contacts, comprising the steps of:

25 moving the magnetic stripe relative to a magnetic reading
head;

 applying forces to the card that resist motion of the
card; and

30 reading data from the card while the forces that resist
motion of the card are applied to the card.